



**COUNTY OF
SAN BERNARDINO**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Federal Legislative Activities - Week of March 10, 2014

Please find a listing of federal legislative activities the County and our federal advocates are monitoring during the week of March 10, 2014 below.

Congressional Hearings and Floor Activity

Monday, March 10th

9 AM | American Public Transportation Association: Transportation Legislation Issues, a conference on public transportation and passenger rail issues including funding legislation and current transportation policies in Congress and in the Obama Administration.

Tuesday, March 11th

10 AM | Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Hearing – Health Care Access and Cost. Hearings to examine what the U.S. health care system can learn from other countries

The House will meet at 2 PM for legislative business. Legislation Considered Under Suspension of the Rules:

[H.R. 1814](#) - Equitable Access to Care and Health (EACH) Act (Sponsored by Rep. Aaron Schock / Ways and Means Committee). This bill expands the religious conscience exemption under the 2010 health care overhaul to include individuals who have "sincerely held religious beliefs" against receiving medical care. Such individuals could continue to receive Social Security.

[H.R. 3474](#) - Hire More Heroes Act of 2013 (Sponsored by Rep. Rodney Davis / Ways and Means Committee). This bill exempts veterans who already receive health insurance through the Veterans Affairs Department or reservists covered under Tricare from being counted toward the number of employees that triggers the employer mandate under the 2010 health care overhaul.

[H.R. 3979](#) - Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act of 2014, as amended (Sponsored by Rep. Lou Barletta / Ways and Means Committee). This bill clarifies that qualified services rendered as a bona fide volunteer to an eligible employer do not count as employee hours of service for the purposes of the employer shared-responsibility requirement under the 2010 health care overhaul — thereby writing into the U.S. Code the regulations issued Feb. 10 by Treasury.

[H.R. 4160](#) - Keep the Promise to Seniors Act of 2014 (Sponsored by Rep. Renee Ellmers / Energy and Commerce Committee / Ways and Means Committee). The bill would prohibit further action on the proposed rule regarding changes to Medicare prescription drug benefit programs.

Wednesday, March 12th

10 AM | Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Hearing – Minimum Wage Policy - *From Poverty to Opportunity: How a Fair Minimum Wage Will Help Working Families Succeed*

10 AM | House Transportation and Infrastructure Hearing - Map-21 Implementation, Fiscal 2015 Budget: Surface Transportation. Click [here](#) to view the live webcast.

10 AM | House Ways and Means, Full Committee Hearing – Fiscal 2015 Budget

10:30 AM | Senate Budget, Full Committee Hearing – Fiscal 2015 Budget

2 PM | Senate Veterans' Affairs, Full Committee Hearing – Fiscal 2015 Budget: Department of Veterans Affairs

2 PM | House Appropriations Hearing – Fiscal 2015 Appropriations: Transportation and HUD

2 PM | House Budget, Full Committee Hearing – Fiscal 2015 Budget, President's Fiscal Year 2015 Revenue and Economic Policy Proposals

Thursday, March 13th

10 AM | Senate Appropriations Hearing - 2015 Appropriations: Transportation and HUD

10 AM | Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions Hearing – FDA Public Health Initiatives

10 AM | Senate Indian Affairs, Full Committee Hearing – Transportation in Indian Country. Click [here](#) to view the live webcast.

10 AM | House Veterans' Affairs, Full Committee Hearing – Fiscal 2015 Budget: Department of Veterans Affairs

10 AM | House Education and the Workforce – Health Care Provider Administration

2 PM | House Appropriations Hearing – Fiscal 2015 Appropriations: Transportation and HUD

2:30 PM | Bipartisan Roundtable - Surface Transportation Reauthorization Roundtable to Gather Input from Non-Federal Partners.

Friday, March 14th

The House will meet at 9 AM for legislative business. Last votes expected no later than 3 PM.

[H.R. 4015](#) - SGR Repeal and Medicare Provider Payment Modernization Act of 2014 (Subject to a Rule) (Sponsored by Rep. Michael Burgess / Energy and Commerce Committee / Ways and Means Committee / Judiciary Committee) – *Permanent Doc Fix* - The bill formally repeals the sustainable growth rate (SGR) used to determine Medicare payment rates for physicians, and it provides for a transition to a new dual system to reward quality of care that doctors could choose from beginning in 2019 — one of which encourages alternative payment systems away from fee-for-service, and the other that provides incentives for better overall performance in providing quality care.